

COLLECTION OF *PSOROPHORA*
HOWARDII IN SCOTT COUNTY, IOWA¹

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Two adult female *Psorophora howardii* Coquillett were collected in dry ice-baited CDC miniature light traps on July 22, 1986 in Davenport, Scott County, Iowa. Species determination was based on characters described by Siverly (1972) and by Darsie and Ward (1981). This is the first report of this species in Iowa, bringing the total number of species reported in Iowa to 50. *Psorophora howardii* occurs in several surrounding states, including Illinois, Missouri and Nebraska (Knight and Wonio 1969). However, this is the northernmost report of this species in the western portion of its range. This species has been reported as far north as New Jersey (McNelly and Crans 1983) and Delaware (Lake 1963) in the eastern portion of its range. No males or larvae have been collected in Iowa at this time.

The biology of *Ps. howardii* is similar to that of *Psorophora ciliata* (Fabricius), the other species in the subgenus *Psorophora* occurring in the United States. The larvae are predators of floodwater mosquitoes such as *Aedes vexans* Meigen and *Ae. trivittatus* (Coquillett). Unusually large populations of floodwater mosquitoes

in southeastern Iowa in 1986 undoubtedly led to large populations of this species and of *Ps. ciliata*.

Psorophora howardii is a nearctic species (Carpenter and LaCasse 1955). Within the United States, the range of this species includes most of the southeastern states, extending as far west as Arizona (Richards et al. 1956). *Psorophora howardii* is also found in Central America.

Both specimens have been deposited in the Iowa State Insect Collection located at Iowa State University in Ames, Iowa. It is hoped that additional specimens will be collected in the forthcoming years.

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